

Claims

1. A composition consisting essentially of at least 90% policosanols obtained from rice bran wax, wherein the policosanols comprise from about 25 to about 35% of octacosanol.

2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the level of policosanols is at least 93%.

3. The composition of claim 2, wherein the level of policosanols is at least 95%.

4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the policosanols comprise from about 28 to about 32% of octacosanol.

5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the policosanols comprise about 30% of octacosanol.

6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the policosanols comprise from 0.5 to 15 % of tetracosanol, from 5 to 35% of hexacosanol, from 25 to 35% of octacosanol, from 12 to 49 of triacontanol, and from 2 to 17 % of dotriacontanol.

7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the level of policosanols is at least 95% and the policosanols comprise about 30% of octacosanol.

8. A method for treatment of hypercholesterolemia, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a composition consisting essentially of at least 90% policosanols obtained from rice bran wax, wherein the policosanols comprise from about 25 to about 35% of octacosanol.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the level of policosanols is at least 93%.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the level of policosanols is at least 95%.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the policosanols comprise from about 28 to about 32% of octacosanol.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein the policosanols comprise about 30% of octacosanol.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the policosanols comprise from 0.5 to 15 % of tetracosanol, from 5 to 35% of hexacosanol, from 25 to 35% of octacosanol, from 12 to 49 of triacontanol, and from 2 to 17 % of dotriacontanol.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein the level of policosanols is at least 95% and the policosanols comprise about 30% of octacosanol.

15. The method of claim 8, wherein the composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of powders, tablets, capsules, and solutions.

16. The method of claim 8, wherein the composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of hard shell capsules and soft-gel capsules.

17. The method of claim 8, wherein the effective amount is from about 10 mg to about 20 mg per day.

18. The method of claim 8, wherein the administration is performed as a single dose per day.

5 19. The method of claim 8, wherein the administration is performed as multiple doses per day.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the multiple doses per day are each equal in size to one another.